

Ser. No. 09/578,174  
Art Unit: 3628

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**REMARKS**

Claims 5, 7, and 12-28 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-11 were allowed.

- 5 Claims 5, 7, and 12-28 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph.

Claims 5, 7, 12, 14, 16, 25, and 28 are being amended to more clearly recite proper antecedents.

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For claim 17, Applicant does not intend for "an exchange" to refer to an antecedent. This is the first mention in this set of claims of "an exchange that conducts the trade". Claim 18 properly refers back to "the exchange" introduced in claim 17.

- 15 In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1-28, as amended, are in a position for allowance. Applicant believes that a full and complete response to the office action has been made. Reconsideration and re-examination is respectfully requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited.


- 20 If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at (831) 476-5506.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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